

REMARKS

Applicant elects the invention of Group VII without traverse. Applicant has rewritten the claims so that all of the claims ultimately depend from claim 4, which is directed to the elected invention. Support for a portion comprising at least a polyketide synthase domain of *tmbA*, *tmbB*, and *tmbC* is found, for example, in the parent application, which issued into U.S. Patent No. 6,280,999, the disclosure of which was incorporated by reference into the instant application. Specifically, Table 1 therein provides the domain boundaries (start and end amino acid sequences) which are identified for various domain types (KS, AT, DH, KR, and ACP). In addition, it is respectfully submitted that a skilled artisan may identify domains by sequence comparison with known PKS genes and enzymes without undue experimentation. See page 3 of current specification. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that all the pending claims may be examined in the present application. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with the applicant's counsel will further prosecution of the case, she is kindly requested to telephone the undersigned.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 300622002021. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 
Carolyn A. Favorito
Registration No.: 39,183
MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP
3811 Valley Centre Drive, Suite 500
San Diego, California 92130
(858) 720-5195